

Statement from the Department of State regarding the CISA advisory:

“Security and elections experts in the Department have reviewed CISA’s advisory and remain confident in the security of Colorado’s elections. There is no evidence that any of the potential risks identified in CISA’s advisory have been exploited in any election in Colorado or elsewhere. Colorado is one of the nation’s leaders in secure elections and already implements a range of security measures that protect the state’s election equipment and voting systems from threats, including many of the mitigations CISA recommends. CISA has also confirmed that the software that was tested is not used in Colorado’s voting systems.”

Additional Background:

- ImageCast X is a voting device with a touchscreen display that can be used as an accessible voting device which prints a paper ballot after a voter makes their selections. These devices are sometimes called BMDs, short for “ballot marking device.”
- CISA confirmed that while Colorado is named in the Report, and thus “affected” by the Report, Colorado does not currently use, and hasn’t used, the software package that was tested for the ICX machines. **CISA has no evidence that these vulnerabilities have been exploited in any elections in the country and confirmed that Colorado specifically is not directly implicated because Colorado does not use the software version that the researchers evaluated.**
- It is worth emphasizing that vulnerability analysis like that conducted for the report used conditions and access that are unlikely to exist in real-world conditions. The paid expert who was hired by the plaintiffs in the Georgia case had unlimited access to the Dominion machines along with passwords and manuals for an extended amount of time. Colorado Election Rules and laws around the use and access of voting equipment and election systems make it extremely unlikely for an individual to spend weeks alone with a piece of voting system equipment to tamper with it in any way.
- Colorado Statistics on use of ICX Machines: The vast majority of Colorado votes are not cast on the ballot marking equipment identified in the report. In 2020, roughly 2.5% of ballots were cast on that equipment, which even

then was not using the same software version that was analyzed in the Halderman Report, and in 2021 that percentage was five times lower, at roughly .5%.

- Colorado ensures all these devices are physically protected before, during, and after voting and is already increasing such measures through the Colorado Election Security Act. Colorado already requires compliance with chain of custody procedures throughout the election cycle. Colorado already requires carefully selected protective and detective physical security measures (for example, locks and tamper-evident seals) are implemented on all ballot marking devices, including on connected devices such as printers and connecting cables.
- Colorado tests ImageCast X devices with bipartisan teams of election judges.
- Every voter who uses an ICX machine is still printed a paper ballot with their selections in human-readable text to review before they cast it. The very small fraction of voters who use ICX machines are reminded to verify the human-readable votes on the printout before they cast it.
- Colorado already conducts the most rigorous post-election tabulation audit in the nation using the human-readable portions of physical ballots and paper records including reviewing ballot chain of custody and conducting voter/ballot reconciliation procedures. No bipartisan risk-limiting audit has ever found a ballot printed using an ICX machine that wasn't tabulated correctly according to the human-verified text on the ballot.